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George Korda

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The Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 FILED/ACCEPTED AUG 2 9 2007

Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

## Dear Debi:

I trust that you and your family are doing well and enjoying Washington. It's hard to believe that 23 years have passed since we worked together. That remains a pivotal experience in my career. I learned a great deal, much of it from you, for which I remain grateful.

You have prospered, obviously. I now have my own public relations firm. I also work in radio so I try to stay current on trends in the radio and television markets. I have been following the debate surrounding the proposed merger between XM Satellite Radio and Sirius Satellite Radio and I would like to ask you to oppose the merger.

I cannot see how letting the only two competitors in this area merge would do anything other than create a monopoly – to the detriment of consumers. My understanding is that at the time these companies were launched the FCC was clear in stating that they would not be allowed to merge. As XM and Sirius remain the only two competitors in the satellite radio market, allowing them to merge will eliminate competition. Consumers would be left with inferior service at a higher price.

I have seen it reported that a new structure for XM and Sirius subscriptions would be "a la carte" offerings. Subscribers could supposedly choose which channels they receive for a lesser fee. When these kinds of promises are made there is always a catch, and the house always wins. What new equipment will customers have to buy to take advantages of these supposed "savings?" How would customer choices be limited? The end game is that customers' choice will be limited and costs will be higher for premium channels.

In this case, bigger is not better. I hope you will do everything you can to ensure the merger is rejected.

I know how busy you must be, so I appreciate you taking time to consider my concerns. I would love to visit with you or have you on my program next time you visit Knoxville. Even if you're not planning a visit, might we do something for my show by phone?

Sincerely,

Peorge Korda

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